GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

A B S T R A C T

Agriculture & Cooperation Department – Horticulture – Sri K.Jayachandra Reddy, the then Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur – Allegations of bribery levelled by certain farmers – Disciplinary action initiated under A.P.Civil Services (CCA) Rules, 1991 – Subsequently retired as Project Director, APMIP, Chittoor – Imposition of the penalty of "Withholding of 10% of Pension for a period of (2) years, under A.P.Revised Pension Rules, 1980 – Orders – Issued.

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AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION (VIG.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No. 521 **Dated: 24/08/2022**

Read the following:

1. Complaint Petition dt.10.08.2017 & 24.08.2017 of Sri Pallela Siva Rami Reddy, R/o Mandapadu Village, Guntur District.
2. Complaint Petition dt.23.08.2017 of Sri V.VaraPrasad Reddy, R/o Gorantla, Guntur District.
3. Proceedings No.Estt.I (2)18/2017, dt.29.08.2017 of the Commissioner of Horticullture, A.P., Guntur.
4. From the Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur, Letter No.Estt.I(2) 18/2017, dt.29.08.2017.
5. Government Memo No. AGST.31/3/2017, A & C (Vig.I) Dept., dt.08.09.2017.
6. From the Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P. Guntur, Letter No. Estt- I(2) 18/2017, dt.01.11.2017.
7. G.O.Rt.No.751, A & C (Vig.I) Dept., dt.30.11.2017.
8. From the Commissioner of Horticulture, AP, Guntur, Letter No.Estt.I(2)18/2017, dt.17.01.2018 & 29.03.2018.
9. G.O.Rt.No.221, A & C (Vig.I) Dept., dt.09.04.2018.
10. G.O.Rt.No.280, A & C (Vig.I) Dept., dt.01.05.2018.
11. From Sri A.Surya Prakash, Project Officer, APMIP, Guntur & Inquiry Authority Letter No.APMIP/E-I/1798/ 2017, dt.30.07.2019.
12. Government Memo.No.AGST.31/3/2017, A&C (Vig.I) Dept., Dt:16.11.2019.
13. From the Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur, Letter dt.10.02.2020 & 19.03.2020.
14. Govt. Notice. No. AGST-31/03/2017/Vig.I, A & C(Vig.I) Dept., dt.28.02.2022.
15. From the Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur, Lr.No.Estt-I (2)18/2017, dt.20.04.2022 along with representation, dt.22.03.2022 of Sri K. Jayachandra Reddy, the then Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur and subsequently retired as Project Director, APMIP, Chittoor.
16. Govt. Letter No. AGST-31/03/2017/Vig.I, A & C (Vig.I) Dept., dt.24.05.2022.
17. From the Secretary, A.P.Public Service Commission, Vijayawada, File No. GAD03-APPS0DCC/29/2022-DC SEC–APPSC, Computer No. 1744447, dt.10.07.2022

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O R D E R:

In the references 1st & 2nd read above, Sri Pallela Siva Rami Reddy, Mandapadu Village, Guntur District and Sri V.Vara Prasad Reddy, Gorantla Village, Guntur District have levelled certain allegations against Sri K. Jayachandra Reddy, the then Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur, with regard to demanding of bribery for release of subsidy amounts under Horticulture Programmes and after enquiry the Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur has placed Sri K.Jayachandra Reddy, the then Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur, under suspension, under rule - 8(1) of A.P.Civil Services (CCA) Rules, 1991, in the reference 3rd read above, in public interest.

2. In the reference 4th read above, the Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur has submitted proposals to Government to ratify the action taken by him in having placed Sri K. Jayachandra Reddy, Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur, under suspension and accordingly in the reference 5th read above, the Government have ratified the above action of the Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur.

(P.T.O)

3. In the reference 6th read above, the Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur has forwarded the preliminary inquiry report submitted by Sri A. Surya Prakash, Project Officer, APMIP, Guntur into the allegation of the Sri K.Jayachandra Reddy, Deputy Director of Horticulture (U/s), along with draft Articles of Charge for initiation of disciplinary action against him, under A.P.Civil Services (CCA) Rules, 1991.

4. After examination of the preliminary inquiry report, the Government have issued Articles of Charge against Sri K. Jayachandra Reddy, Deputy Director of Horticulture (U/s), under rule 20 of A.P. Civil Services (CCA) Rules, 1991, in the reference 7th read above, with a direction to submit his Written Statement of Defense (WSD), duly admitting/denying the Charges and in the reference 8th read above, the Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur, has furnished reinstatement proposal in respect of the Charged Officer Sri K. Jayachandra Reddy, Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur (U/s), together with his Written Statement of Defense (WSD) submitted, wherein the latter has denied the charges framed against him and requested to drop further action in the matter.

5. In the reference 9th read above, the Government have revoked the suspension against Sri K. Jayachandra Reddy, Deputy Director of Horticulture and reinstated him into service, pending disciplinary action and posted as Deputy Project Director, O/o Project Director, ATMA, Chittoor.

6. Since the Written Statement of Defense (WSD) submitted by the Charged Officer is far from convincing, the Government have appointed Sri A. Surya Prakash, Project Officer, APMIP, Guntur, as Inquiry Authority, under Rule 20 of A.P.Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991, in the reference 10th read above, to conduct regular inquiry into the Articles of Charge issued against the Charged Officer Sri K. Jayachandra Reddy, the then Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur and also appointed Sri K. Sreenivasulu, Deputy Director of Horticulture/OSD, APMIP, Guntur as Presenting Officer, in the same Order, to present the case before the Inquiry Authority.

7. In the reference 11th read above, Sri A. Surya Prakash, Project Officer, APMIP, Guntur & the Inquiry authority has submitted his report to the Government, stating that the Articles of Charge issued against Sri K. Jayachandra Reddy, the then Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur are held proved and in the reference 12th read above, the Government have communicated the Inquiry report to the Charged Officer, through the Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur, with a direction to submit his explanation on the findings of the Inquiry Authority.

8. In the reference 13th read above, the Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur has forwarded the explanation dt.05.01.2020 of the Charged Officer Sri K. Jayachandra Reddy, the then Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur in which he has denied the Articles of Charges issued against him and requested to drop further action in the matter.

9. The Government, after careful examination of the matter, in consultation with the advisory department, have decided to impose the penalty of "Withholding of 10% of Pension for a period of (2) years", under A.P.Revised Pension Rules, 1980, against the Charged Officer Sri K. Jayachandra Reddy, the then Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur and subsequently retired as Project Director, APMIP, Chittoor on 31.05.2021, after attaining the age of superannuation.

10 Accordingly, the Government have issued a Notice to Sri K.Jayachandra Reddy, the then Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur and subsequently retired as Project Director, APMIP, Chittoor, in the reference 14th read above, through the Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur, with a direction to show-cause as to why the penalty of "Withholding of 10% pension for a period of (2) years" should not be imposed against him for the charge held proved and in the reference 15th read above, Sri K.Jayachandra Reddy, the then Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur and subsequently retired as Project Director, APMIP, Chittoor has submitted his representation and requested to drop further action in the matter.

11. Since, the Charged Officer Sri K.Jayachandra Reddy, the then Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur and subsequently retired as Project Director, APMIP, Chittoor has not produced any new material or evidence that has the effect of changing the nature of the case, the Government have not considered his representation and decided to impose the above penalty of "Withholding of 10% pension for a period of (2) years" against him.

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12. Accordingly, the Secretary, A.P.P.S.C., Vijayawada has been requested, in the reference 16th read above, to place above said proposal in respect of the Charged Officer Sri K.Jayachandra Reddy, the then Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur and subsequently retired as Project Director, APMIP, Chittoor, before the Commission, as per Regulation 17 of APPSC, and obtain its concurrence and communicate the same to this Department for further action in the matter.

13. In the reference 17th read above, the Secretary, A.P.P.S.C., Vijayawada has proposed to enhance the penalty to "Withholding of 10% pension for a period of (5) years" against Sri K.Jayachandra Reddy, the then Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur and subsequently retired as Project Director, APMIP, Chittoor and advised accordingly.

14. The Government, after careful examination of the matter, have decided to retain its decision of imposing the penalty of "Withholding of 10% pension for a period of (2) years" in respect of the Charged Officer Sri K.Jayachandra Reddy, the then Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur and subsequently retired as Project Director, APMIP, Chittoor, as per A.P.Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

15. Accordingly, the Government, hereby, impose the penalty of "Withholding of 10% pension for a period of (2) years" in respect of the Charged Officer Sri K.Jayachandra Reddy, the then Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur and subsequently retired as Project Director, APMIP, Chittoor, as per A.P.Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

16. The Commissoner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur, shall take necessary further action in the matter, accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

POONAM MALAKONDAIAH
CHIEF COMMISSIONER, RBKs &
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To:
Sri K.Jayachandra Reddy, the then Deputy Director of Horticulture, Guntur and subsequently retired as Project Director, APMIP, Chittoor.
(through the Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur).
The Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur.

Copy to:
The Prl. Accountant General, A.P., Vijayawada.
The Director of Treasuries & Accounts, A.P., Vijayawada.
The District Treasury Officer/Sub Treasury Officer, Chittoor.
The P.S. to Secretary, A.P.P.S.C., Vijayawada.
The Joint Director of Horticulture, Guntur.
The Project Director, APMIP, Chittoor.
Sf/Sc.

// FORWARDED BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFCIER